

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph bridging pages 17-18 of the specification with the following amended paragraph:

Vapor grown carbon fiber, which contains crystals grown in the fiber axis direction and has branches, is suitably employed for attaining the object of the present invention. Vapor grown carbon fiber can be produced through, for example, the following procedure: a gasified organic compound is fed into a high-temperature atmosphere together with iron serving as a catalyst. The vapor grown carbon fiber to be employed may be any of "as-produced" carbon fiber, carbon fiber which has undergone thermal treatment at about 800 to about 1,500°C, or carbon fiber which has undergone graphitization at about 2,000 to about 3,000°C. The vapor grown carbon fiber to be employed is appropriately chosen in accordance with the type of ~~electrical~~ electrode active substance powder to be employed. However, preferably, vapor grown carbon fiber which has undergone thermal treatment, preferably graphitization, is employed, since the thus-treated carbon fiber exhibits high carbon crystallinity, high electrical conductivity, and high pressure resistance.

Please replace the second full paragraph on page 36 of the specification with the following amended paragraph:

Examples of the solid polymer electrolyte include polyalkylene oxide derivatives such as polyethylene oxide and polypropylene oxide, polymers containing such a derivative, derivatives of polymers such as ~~vinylidene fluoride~~ poly(vinylidene fluoride), ~~hexafluorovinylidene~~ poly(hexafluoropropylene), polycarbonate, phosphate ester polymer, polyalkylimine,

polyacrylonitrile, poly(meth)acrylic acid ester, phosphonitrilic chloride, polyurethane, polyamide, polyester and polysiloxane, and polymers containing such a derivative.

Please replace the second full paragraph on page 42 of the specification with the following amended paragraph:

Composition a-1 was prepared as a mixed solution of Compound a (1 mass part) and PC (12 mass parts). Similarly, Composition b-1 was prepared as a mixed solution of ~~Compound a~~ Compound b (1 mass part) and PC (12 mass parts).